

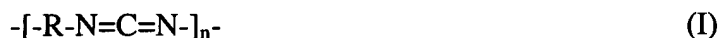
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-5. (canceled).

6. (previously presented): A battery separator obtained by applying a polymer having in the molecule a carbodiimide unit represented by the following formula (I):



(wherein R is an organic group and n is an integer of 1 to 10,000)

to a porous sheet substrate,

which comprises a porous sheet substrate produced by aggregating polycarbodiimide-coated polymer particles obtained by forming a coating layer of the polymer of formula (I) on the surface of core particles.

7. (original): The battery separator of claim 6, wherein the core particles are a polyolefin.